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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO :

FROM :

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DATE: 2 February 1955

SUBJECT: Background on CIA Intelligence Support
for US Mission to the UN

In accordance with your request, this paper summarizes (a) a brief chronology of major events and (b) the nature of intelligence support previously given to Ambassador Lodge and his staff. The information on events before August 1954 is drawn from the files; the other events are from my own experience.

I. Chronology of Events

STATSPEC In February-March 1953, when Ambassador Lodge had just assumed his position at the UN, he made a special request to the DCI for direct support of his effort by this Agency. At this time he talked to various Agency officials, including Mr. Carey of O/O, and apparently was left with the impression that there are "thousands of words a day" pouring into this Agency which could be of use to Lodge in New York. I would judge that Mr. Carey was referring to [REDACTED] operation, but I'm afraid that Lodge still believes that this Agency has far greater resources than we have shown him. This misconception probably persists even today. A clear explanation to Ambassador Lodge of what the Agency can and cannot do is long overdue and would be extremely useful in clarifying our role.

Direct support of Lodge by the Agency is, of course, irregular since the Office of International Organizations in the Department of State (formerly called United Nations Affairs) is directly charged with this responsibility and has some 150 people to carry it out. In early 1953 Secretary Murphy was told by the Agency that some support in clandestine matters would be given directly to Lodge; so far as I am aware, the present chief of the office, Assistant Secretary Keyes, has not formally been told of this arrangement. An explanation to Mr. Keyes might be the second order of business in regularizing this operation.

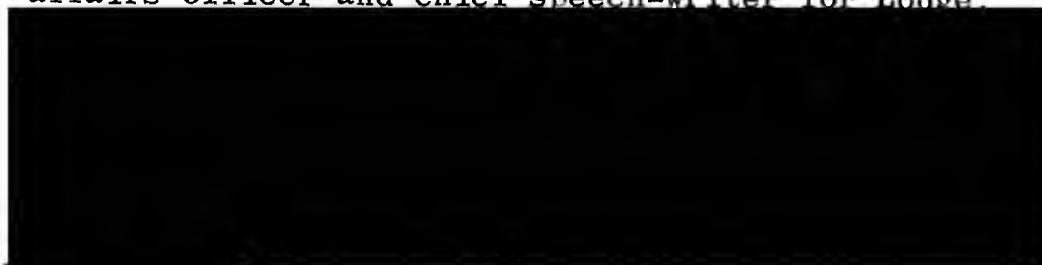
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The clandestine support channel, whose details I will discuss with you verbally, was established in April-May 1953, and the chief of the unit at headquarters was assigned as the Agency member on the OCB UN Working Group then being established. The OCB group was set up by C. D. Jackson at the request of Ambassador Lodge and was chaired by Wallace Irwin Jr. of OCB, who is now public affairs officer and chief speech-writer for Lodge.

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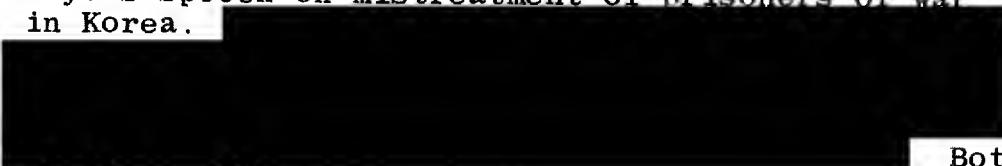


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Because of C. D. Jackson's close and continuing interest in UN affairs, Pete Craig of OCB has been particularly active in this area.

During the Eighth General Assembly (September-December 1953) the OCB group was principally concerned with preparing material for Dr. Mayo's speech on mistreatment of prisoners of war in Korea.

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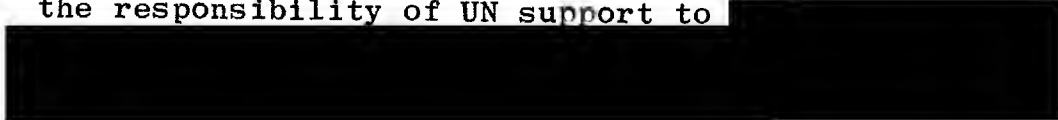


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Both of these efforts apparently were satisfactory to Lodge. A blow-up came, however, at the time of the Guatemala incident in June 1954 wherein Lodge found himself without adequate background material to deal with the issue in the UN. Apparently, representations were made to DCI, who thereupon shifted the responsibility of UN support to

Entirely different problem.

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II. The Nature of Intelligence Support Previously Given

In my first and only meeting with Ambassador Lodge I was told that the principal function was to channel "these thousands of words of intelligence" into his office for use in the UN Assembly. At that

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time I suggested that certain classified background information might also be needed, and Lodge wholeheartedly concurred. He introduced me to Ambassador James J. Wadsworth, his deputy, and Brigadier General C. Stanton Babcock, the Councilor of Mission at US UN and in effect the chief of staff. Since that time I have dealt only with General Babcock.

I soon learned that Babcock was not interested in getting psychological warfare ideas from the briefings but was quite interested in current intelligence roundups. The General is acutely conscious of the fact that this direct Agency contact is out of channels and on one occasion voiced the hope that appropriate State Department authorities would be informed of this arrangement. The General therefore has never used these briefing sessions as a means of levying intelligence requirements on the Agency; instead, all such requirements are channeled to Mr. Irwin, the speech-writer, who in turn passes them to State and/or the OCB group. The briefings are therefore a one-way street; Babcock occasionally will volunteer some information he has gotten from UN delegates, but this return flow is irregular and of marginal intelligence use.

I also soon learned that there was no point in attempting to give Babcock information on UN affairs, delegates' reactions to issues, possible new agenda items, etc. US UN has a staff of 110 people which, during General Assembly sessions, is augmented by perhaps 40 or 50 additional experts from Washington. Accordingly, he is fully informed on affairs relating to US UN, and it would be embarrassing for the briefer to attempt to cover this material.


With psychological warfare suggestions and UN affairs ruled out, the Babcock briefing for the past five months has consisted of a general roundup of major events - Indochina, Middle East defense, German rearmament, etc. You will recall that Babcock has a Special Intelligence clearance, and, with your permission, I have included this material in the

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roundup. Babcock, who has little time for reading, apparently enjoys these sessions and has so informed Lodge, who, in a letter to the DCI of 18 December, requested that the briefing sessions continue.

As to practical arrangements, I have agreed with Babcock that the briefings will be held every two weeks on a mutually convenient day. He has no particular preference; hence, the briefer can select the date. The appointments are made by phone with his secretary, who calls. Other persons in the US UN mission who know of these briefing sessions are: the security officer and his secretary, Mr. Irwin, the receptionist, and Ambassador Wadsworth and his secretary. Within the Agency, O/O Contact Division  are aware of these briefing sessions; O/O has agreed that its communications and courier services can be used if necessary.

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For your personal information, General Babcock has received formal assurance from the Pentagon that he will be given a military command in June of this year. At the time of his departure I would think that the briefings might well be modified or even dropped.

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